## Message Text

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**ACTION NEA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 FBO-08 A-01 /023 W

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P R 271250Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1561

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAMASCUS 2112

FOR NEA/EX

BEIRUT FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, ABLD, SY

SUBJ: ADDITIONAL OFFICE SPACE - DAMASCUS

REFERENCE: STATE 208048 (NOTAL) DAMASCUS 2024 (NOTAL)

STATE 212458 (NOTAL)

- 1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES BUREAU'S PROBLEMS OUTLINED REFTEL.
- 2. INSTALLING CONSULAR SECTION IN NCOIC APARTMENT, AS SUGGESTED EMBTEL 2024, REMOVES FROM CHANCERY AN ELEMENT WHICH ATTRACTS MANY YOUNG VISITORS. THIS KIND OF VISITOR CREATES A POTENTIAL SECURITY PROBLEM WE ARE ANXIOUS TO ELIMINATE.
- 3. RSS GLENN, WHO RECENTLY VISITED POST, HAS STRONG RESERVATIONS ON ALTERING FIRST FLOOR OF BUILDING FOR USE BY CONSULATE AS CURRENTLY BEING CONSIDERED BY FBO (STATE 212458). SINCE PLAN REQUIRES ADDITIONAL ENTRANCE TO BUILDING FURTHER COMPLICATING SECURITY SITUATION.
- 4. RSS GLENN AND RSO TRETOLLA STRONGLY ADVISE AGAINST OFFICING ANY LOCALS ABOVE GROUND FLOOR FOR SECURITY REASONS AND EMBASSY FULLY CONCURS THEIR VIEW. THIS LEAVES ONLY SMALL AREA IN BASEMENT AND GROUND FLOOR TO OFFICE SECTIONS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WHICH REQUIRE LOCALS. IT PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO SHOEHORN

STAFF INTO THESE TWO AREAS.

5. EMBASSY CONVINCED THAT SPEEDIEST AND MOST ECONOMICAL SOLUTION TO SPACE PROBLEM IS TO MOVE CONSULAR SECTION TO NCOIC APARTMENT, THIS IS ONLY RPT ONLY EXTRA SPACE AVAILABLE CLOSE TO CHANCERY, (EMBTEL 2024). ANY FURTHER DELAY IN APPROVING OUR PROPOSAL PREVENTS ALLOCATING CHANCERY SPACE TO OTHER SECTIONS OF EMBASSY. THIS IN TURN IS KEEPING US FROM MOVINGTO IMPROVE PHYSICAL SECURITY OF WHOLE CHANCERY. UNTIL SPACE IS ALLOCATED WE CANNOT INSTALL URGENTLY NEEDED SECURITY DEVICES, BARRIERS ETC.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: TELEGRAPHIC APPROVAL TO CONVERT NCOIC APARTMENT TO OFFICE SPACE FOR CONSULAR SECTION. MURPHY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Subject: ADDITIONAL OFFICE SPACE - DAMASCUS

TAGS: AFSP, ABLD, SY

To: STATE

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